

CHANGE *for* STUDENTS

CHANGE *for* WORKERS

CHANGE *for*
THE ECONOMY



CHANGE *for* OUR KIDS

CHANGE *for* FAMILIES

CHANGE *for the* BETTER
PRACTICAL STEPS

CHANGE *for* SENIORS



WORKING TOGETHER TO ACHIEVE OUR HOPES AND DREAMS

The NDP platform is the result of intensive consultation with British Columbians by our party and the entire NDP caucus

Dear friend,

The NDP platform is the result of intensive consultation with British Columbians by our party and the entire NDP caucus.

You told us that you want a thoughtful, practical government that focuses on private sector jobs and growing our economy, lives within its means, and offers a hopeful vision of the future.

That's what we have worked to achieve.

First and foremost, our priority is to create opportunities for British Columbians to succeed in a fast-changing and competitive economy.

Our platform outlines the practical and affordable steps we can take to get us there – from expanding skills training, to reducing poverty and inequality, improving health care, protecting our environment and fighting climate change.

The changes we are proposing are designed to open up new opportunities for British Columbians to make the most of their own lives, and to build strong communities in a thriving, productive and green economy.

As Leader of the BC NDP, I work with an outstanding team of British Columbians from all walks of life. I can promise you that we will work as hard as we can to provide you with a better government that listens, that cares, and that works with you to build a better, greener, more prosperous future for you and your family.

Adrian Dix

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Adrian Dix', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Leader, BC NDP

Our key priorities:

1. Create jobs, build a prosperous and sustainable economy and increase the number of skilled workers
 2. Improve learning conditions for our children
 3. Significantly reduce child poverty and reduce inequality over four years
 4. Improve care for BC seniors, people with disabilities, and those living with chronic conditions
 5. Invest in healthy forests and a strong land base
 6. Revitalize the treaty process and support First Nations' economic development
 7. Oppose the Northern Gateway Pipeline and fight climate change
 8. Restore faith in our political process
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INTRODUCTION

CHANGE FOR THE BETTER, ONE PRACTICAL STEP AT A TIME

This platform is about the BC we all know is possible. It describes the specific, practical changes Adrian Dix and the BC New Democrats will deliver for British Columbians like you if we earn your vote in this election. It shows exactly how we will pay for those changes.

We have been careful not to make too many promises. The changes we propose are practical and will make a difference. In uncertain economic times, your government needs to make responsible choices about spending. Those choices should be guided by your priorities.

After 12 years in government, the BC Liberals have lost touch with what matters to British Columbians. From the growing skills gap and creating new jobs, to improving seniors' care, to tackling inequality and taking steps to fight climate change, the BC Liberals have failed to act responsibly in the public interest.

British Columbians deserve a new government that represents the priorities of all British Columbians – a competent government with an optimistic vision that brings people together.

Think of what we can achieve if we work together and focus on the right priorities.

In British Columbia, we can create jobs, build a prosperous and sustainable economy, and give our young people

the skills they need to get the jobs of tomorrow.

We can reduce growing income inequality and reduce high levels of child poverty.

We can fight climate change and invest in transit and green infrastructure.

We can improve public health care and provide better care for BC's seniors.

And we can build a greener, more equal, more prosperous province for every British Columbian.

It will take tough choices, hard work and a generous spirit to get us there. Because the BC Liberals have left the province with a large and growing deficit, we have to be realistic about what can be achieved over a four-year term.

But we can make important changes that chart a better course.

That's what Adrian Dix and the New Democrats offer in this election:

Change for the better – one practical step at a time.

What does that mean for you and your family?

Change for the better means creating new jobs in a sustainable economy.

Adrian Dix and the New Democrats will provide economic stability. There won't be any HST-like surprises if you elect New Democrats. We will tackle the growing skills gap and

make post-secondary education more affordable. We will support a diversified economy by investing in forestry, mining, agriculture and oil and gas industries, as well as film, high tech, and tourism. We will help communities create thriving local economies, with a strong middle-class, successful small businesses and a thriving entrepreneurial culture.

Change for the better means investing in our future and improving public education.

Adrian Dix and the New Democrats will improve classroom conditions so our children will have the tools they need to learn. We'll make childcare more affordable.

Change for the better means reducing poverty and inequality in BC.

Adrian Dix and the New Democrats will work to significantly reduce child poverty with the BC Family Bonus program. We will tie minimum wage increases to the cost of living, and increase earning exemptions for people on income assistance. We will build more affordable housing. Reducing poverty will help support strong communities and a productive economy where everyone has the opportunity to succeed.

Change for the better means improving your health care.

Adrian Dix and the New Democrats will invest in home support for seniors, improve mental health services, take



steps to reduce the cost of prescription drugs, and provide support to improve patient care in rural communities.

Change for the better means supporting BC's resource economy.

Adrian Dix and the New Democrats will invest in our forests and land base, help agricultural producers market locally grown food in BC, and encourage sustainable LNG, oil and gas, and mining developments.

Change for the better means building government-to-government relations with First Nations.

Adrian Dix and the New Democrats will work with First Nations and Aboriginal communities to support economic development through revenue sharing, and revitalize the treaty process for First Nations in treaty. We will work with First Nations and Aboriginal peoples to support economically and culturally vibrant First Nations communities, a critical step towards a better future for our province.

Change for the better
means protecting our
environment and fighting
climate change.

Adrian Dix and the New Democrats will invest carbon tax revenues in climate change solutions like transit, retrofits and green infrastructure. We'll oppose the Enbridge pipeline. We'll ban the use of cosmetic pesticides. We will ensure that BC has rigorous environmental standards and follows best practices.

Change for the better
means restoring trust in our
democracy and offering
good government.

Adrian Dix and the New Democrats will work to bring people back to the political process, particularly young people. We will enable young British Columbians to register to vote when they turn 16. We will put an end to taxpayer-funded partisan advertising. We'll take big money out of politics by banning union and corporate donations. Improving our democracy also means saying no to the politics of personal attacks. New Democrats will be tough on the issues, but we will treat our opponents with respect.

Change for the better
means showing you
how we will pay for our
commitments.

In the last election, the BC Liberals did not tell you the truth about their budget deficit. That dishonesty led directly to the HST and enormous uncertainty for businesses and consumers. It cost us

jobs and hurt our economy. By showing exactly how we will pay for our commitments, our platform supports economic stability and certainty, and contributes to a strong business climate.

The BC New Democrats are ready to take on the challenges ahead. Our candidates come from every part of the province and all walks of life. Our team includes business people who know how to create jobs and meet a payroll, teachers who believe passionately in the importance of education, working people who understand the critical link between good jobs and healthy communities, and municipal leaders who know what it means to be accountable to the people we serve.

We are focused and united behind one goal – to make life better for you and your family in a greener, more prosperous province with more opportunities for every British Columbian.

We invite you to read this platform carefully and consider the practical changes we propose and how they will help your family. And please, ask us any questions that you may have.

Like all elections, this one is important. Elections are how you choose the future you want for yourself and your loved ones. If you believe it's time for a new government with better priorities then we ask for your support. We invite you to work with us to bring about change for the better – one practical step at a time.



BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY & CREATING NEW JOBS

A sustainable, diversified economy that creates new opportunities, good jobs, and a strong middle class is the foundation of the BC NDP platform

KEY PRIORITY

INCREASE THE NUMBER OF SKILLED WORKERS

A sustainable, diversified economy that creates new opportunities, good jobs, and a strong middle class is the foundation of the BC NDP platform.

We will focus on the fundamentals that promote private sector growth, entrepreneurial innovation, and a thriving small business sector – fundamentals like a stable and fair tax system, and a skilled and trained workforce.

In the last election, the BC Liberals did not tell the truth about the deficit. That led directly to the HST, creating enormous uncertainty for businesses, consumers and investors. The HST cost us jobs. And because the Liberals fought so hard keep it, the HST hurt our economy on its way out.

Moreover, BC Liberal neglect of post-secondary education and skills training is putting new job opportunities out of reach for many British Columbians and hurting the many businesses that need skilled workers. The BC Liberal approach leads to an economy of people without jobs, and jobs without people.

British Columbians can choose change for the better – one practical step at a time

Adrian Dix and the New Democrats understand that a forward-looking government must work with businesses and communities to establish the conditions for growth, jobs and a thriving middle-class.

We will make key investments in skills training and student grants. These steps to make post-secondary education more affordable will help British Columbians obtain the skills needed to succeed in today's economy.

We will take concrete action to support a modern and diversified economy. A BC NDP government will help small and local businesses grow. We will champion our important and globally competitive high-tech sector, promote tourism, and take action to stimulate the growth of our creative and film sectors.

We will place a renewed emphasis on rural economic development by investing in our forest land base, promoting agricultural industries and sustainable mining, as well as supporting liquefied natural gas and green solutions to grow this new industry. Our platform stresses the vital importance of working with First Nations to revitalize the treaty process and enhance long-term economic opportunities for Aboriginal peoples.

BC's economy is a trading economy, linked to the world through Canada's Pacific Gateway. The BC NDP will invest in the modern and green economic infrastructure we need to efficiently move people and goods within North America, to the Asia-Pacific, and around the world.

***"We will take practical steps to
create jobs, build a prosperous
and sustainable economy, and
increase skills training."***

-ADRIAN DIX



A BC NDP GOVERNMENT WILL:

1. Provide economic stability and certainty

- › Maintain tax competitiveness and show clearly how we will pay for commitments, with no HST-like surprises.
- › Renew BC's trade and export strategy by developing a coordinated approach with regional and sector-specific goals.

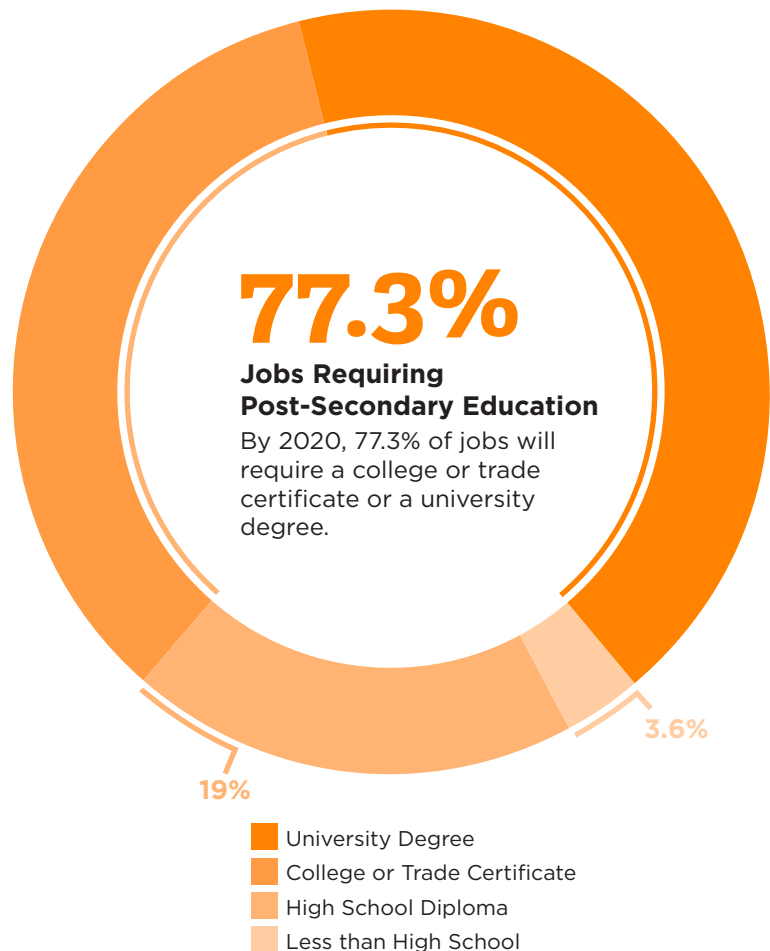
\$27,000

Average BC student debt on graduation

2. Increase the number of skilled workers

- › Establish a \$100 million needs-based, non-repayable student grant program, and improve access and affordability of post-secondary education and skills training.
- › Improve BC's skills training and apprenticeship system for students and employers by creating more spaces, improving completion rates and times, and investing in modern training equipment.
- › Develop new, targeted programs to increase the participation of Northern residents, First Nations people and women in trades training.

- › Re-balance the skills training system so all stakeholders are at the table.
- › Improve safety, quality and consumer and business protection by strengthening credentialing.
- › Create a new scholarship fund for post-secondary and skills training students through a one-time investment of \$20 million and invite private sector and community-based partners to match this funding.



Source: BC Labour Market Outlook

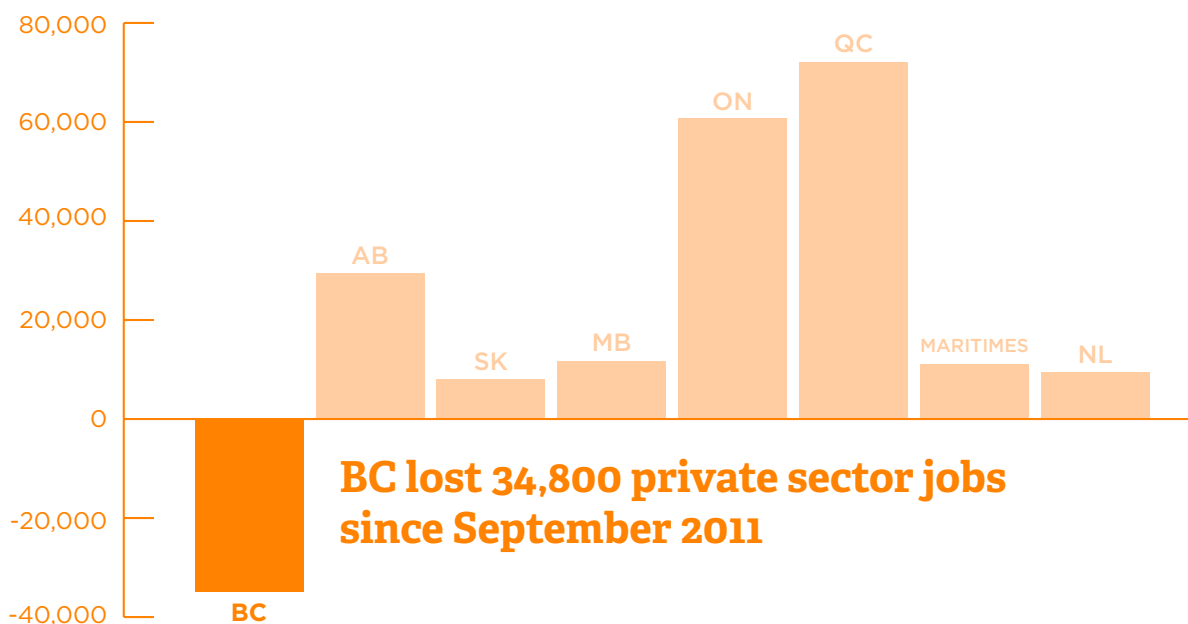
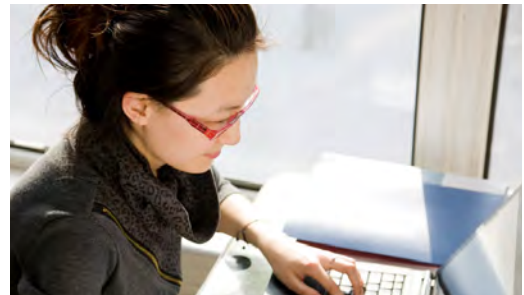
3. Help small and local business thrive

- › Expand the BC Training Tax Credit Program for small and medium-sized businesses that hire co-op students from BC's colleges, institutes and universities.
- › Establish a wage subsidy program for non-profit enterprises that hire co-op students.
- › Expand the Buy BC marketing program to include non-agricultural products made in BC.
- › Support Destination BC as BC's industry-led, formula-funded tourism marketer.
- › Work with small and local business owners to implement the BC Small Business Accord.

- › Undertake a comprehensive review to modernize & improve BC's liquor laws.

4. Support BC's high-tech economy

- › Enhance and renew BC's venture capital programs, and develop a long-term, province-wide strategy to recruit, retain and repatriate high-level technology talent.
- › Update government procurement strategies to help forge partnerships with BC's technology companies, and support business accelerator programs.



Source: Labour Force Survey, private sector job growth since Sept 2011, thousands

5. Grow BC's creative economy

- › Increase BC's domestic and foreign production tax credit programs to improve competitiveness with other Canadian provinces and create jobs in BC's film, TV and digital media industries.
- › Support arts and cultural activity in communities across BC by increasing funding for the BC Arts Council.

6. Recognition for immigrants

- › Improve processes to assess and recognize the credentials of foreign-trained professionals.

7. Restore BC Ferries

- › Position BC Ferries as an integral part of BC's transportation infrastructure.
- › Freeze ferry fares at current rates while an audit is undertaken and a long-term vision is developed.

8. Maximize local and regional benefits from government investments

- › Establish a "Local Business First" government procurement policy, starting with BC hospitals buying locally grown food.
- › Ensure local and regional economies will benefit from government infrastructure investment by expanding project agreements on publicly funded construction projects.



INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE, IMPROVING PUBLIC EDUCATION

In today's world, education is the most important investment we can make in our future

KEY PRIORITY

IMPROVE LEARNING CONDITIONS FOR OUR CHILDREN

In today's world, education is the most important investment we can make in our future.

A strong public education system is the most powerful tool we have to ensure that our province provides equal opportunity and the best possible start in life for every child. It is the foundation for the post-secondary and skills training education that young people will need for the jobs of tomorrow.

In other words, education is the key link between a growing economy and a strong society. It fuels growth with a well-trained workforce. It supports our democracy with informed, engaged and empowered citizens.

British Columbia has an excellent public education system. Our teachers, educators and support staff are highly trained and dedicated to their profession. Parents and families are engaged in the lives of their schools. Locally elected school trustees work hard to strengthen public education. Our schools are integral to the lives of our communities, reflecting the extraordinary potential and diversity of our children and youth.

British Columbians can be proud of the education system we've built together, and confident that we are doing the best for our children. However, over the last 12 years, the BC Liberals have failed to protect public education in BC. Often they have taken us backwards.

As a result, too many young British Columbians go to school in overcrowded classrooms to learn from teachers who have too few resources. Cuts to special needs programs are making it harder for

many students to succeed. Former Premier Campbell's own Progress Board reports that British Columbia's graduation rate is seventh in Canada. Action is particularly needed to improve the 57 per cent graduation rate among Aboriginal students.

British Columbians can choose change for the better – one practical step at a time


Adrian Dix and the New Democrats understand the vital role of public education in creating a more prosperous and inclusive society for every British Columbian.

We will start by directing new resources to the classroom as an important step towards improving outcomes for students.

Bullying is a serious problem in our schools. Nearly half of BC youth have experienced bullying. We will take action to reduce bullying.

A recent report reveals that BC First Nations languages are in a state of crisis. Of 32 First Nations languages, eight are severely endangered and 22 are nearly extinct. We will support Aboriginal peoples in retaining their heritage, language and culture.

Because all the research tells us that education begins in early childhood, long before the first day of school, we will also take steps to create new spaces and reduce costs for parents struggling to afford quality infant and toddler care. We will invest in early learning.

A photograph of Adrian Dix, a man with short brown hair and glasses, wearing a white dress shirt and a colorful paisley tie. He is holding a black microphone in his right hand and gesturing with his left hand. The background is blurred, showing what appears to be a stage or conference setting.

“We need to ensure that everyone can participate in and benefit from the economy, and education is absolutely central to the economy and social equality.”

-ADRIAN DIX

A BC NDP GOVERNMENT WILL:

1. Improve learning conditions for our children

- › Provide students with the classroom support they need, and hire new teachers, education assistants, librarians and counsellors.
- › Put additional focus on students with special needs, Aboriginal students and ESL students.
- › Restore provincial support for the BC Program for the Awareness and Learning of Science (Science World).
- › Replace the Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) test with improved assessment tools resulting from consultation with parents, teachers and school boards.

2. Take real and meaningful action on bullying

- › Create province-wide standards for school codes of conduct.
- › Ensure that students are respected, and that policy exists to deal effectively with homophobia, racism, sexism, transphobia and other forms of systemic discrimination.

3. Preserve First Nations languages

- › Support the preservation of threatened First Nations languages by renewing support for First Nations' heritage, language and culture.

Loss of special education teachers since 2001

-18%

Special education teachers

-34%

English language learning teachers

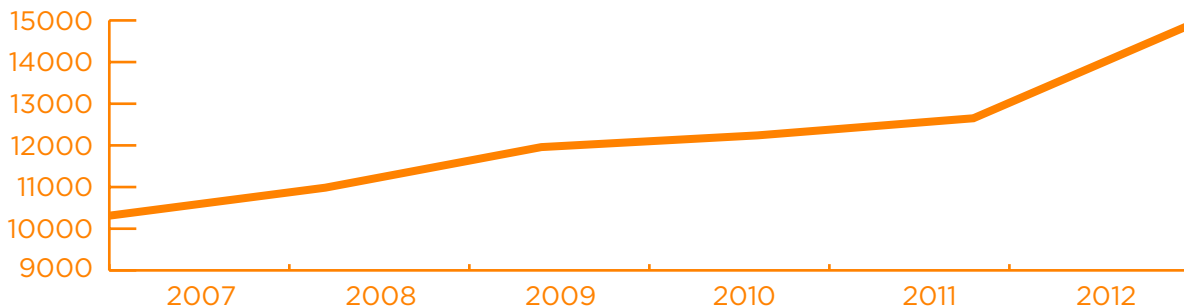
-30%

Library services teachers

-12%

Counsellors

Classes with four or more special needs students



Source: BCTF & BC Ministry of Education

INVESTING IN CHILDCARE AND EARLY LEARNING

Improving the quality and accessibility of early learning and childcare services is fundamental to improving learning conditions and outcomes

KEY PRIORITY

TAKE PRACTICAL STEPS TO IMPROVE CHILDCARE & EARLY LEARNING

Improving the quality and accessibility of early learning and childcare services is fundamental to improving learning conditions and outcomes.

Far too many BC children enter kindergarten without the developmental skills they need to learn and succeed. In fact, research tells us that three in 10 children in BC are not meeting core developmental benchmarks when they first arrive at school.

Child poverty plays a role in school-readiness, but a large number of vulnerable children come from middle-income families. That means we need a broad approach, ranging from income support for low-income families to improved early learning and childcare options for all BC families.

Childcare is a shared responsibility.

We all have a stake in ensuring children have what they need to grow up healthy and strong.

The provincial government must show leadership by taking the first steps to address quality, affordable, accessible early learning and childcare for young children and their parents.

There is also a federal government obligation to cooperate with BC in meeting this challenge, as we must all work together to create the future we want and our children deserve.

A BC NDP GOVERNMENT WILL:

1. Improve access and affordability of childcare

- › Reduce fees for existing licensed infant and toddler care by 20 per cent, saving families an average of \$2,000 per year, and increase spaces.

2. Improve early learning outcomes

- › Invest in early learning and childcare through an Early Years Innovation Fund.

3/10

Number of children who are not developmentally ready when they first enter the school system

Source: UBC Human Early Learning Partnership



REDUCING POVERTY AND INEQUALITY

Over the last 12 years, poverty and inequality have grown dramatically in British Columbia — particularly for children and families

KEY PRIORITY

SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE CHILD POVERTY AND INEQUALITY OVER FOUR YEARS

Over the last 12 years, poverty and inequality have grown dramatically in British Columbia – particularly for children and families.

We've seen deep cuts to programs and services that help at-risk children, income assistance rules that claw back modest earnings, and an ongoing crisis in affordable housing. All have contributed to BC recording Canada's worst or second-worst rate of children living in poverty for nine straight years.

British Columbia has become a deeply unequal province. We are economically more divided than we have been in generations. The income gap is the largest in the country. In 2009, the top 20 per cent in BC held 44.8 per cent of after-tax income, more than any other jurisdiction in Canada. The bottom 20 per cent lived on just 4.5 per cent of income. As the income gap grows wider and wider, it's no wonder that middle-class families – the backbone of a strong economy – are under increased financial stress.

In a province as rich as ours, with an abundance of resources and hard-working people, this continuing long-term increase in poverty and inequality is simply not acceptable. It hurts families. It damages our economy.

The research is clear. Societies with less poverty are healthier, safer, more productive and economically more dynamic than societies with high rates of poverty.

The bottom line, socially and economically, is that the increase in poverty and


inequality is bad for our society. It's also a heart-wrenching example of how the BC Liberal government has made the wrong choices and neglected the needs of British Columbians.

British Columbians can choose change for the better – one practical step at a time

To build the province we want for ourselves and for our children, Adrian Dix and the New Democrats will build new ladders of opportunity to help people join a stronger middle class. We will take steps to reduce poverty and inequality in British Columbia.

New Democrats will invest \$210 million a year in a BC Family Bonus program, a practical and affordable measure to support children and families in need. In addition, as most other Canadian provinces have already done, we will implement a Poverty Reduction Strategy with legislated targets and timelines.

We will take practical steps to reduce poverty and inequality in BC and thereby contribute to the long-term economic well-being of every British Columbian. These steps will help to make every community a healthier and safer place to live, work, and raise a family.



"In a province like BC that has so many natural advantages, increasing rates of poverty and inequality are simply not acceptable. Change for the better means the growth of inequality stops."

-ADRIAN DIX

A BC NDP GOVERNMENT WILL:

1. Significantly reduce child poverty

- › Raise household incomes for low- and moderate-income families with children by investing \$210 million a year in a BC Family Bonus program. Families will receive an additional \$60 to \$70 per child per month, for children under the age of 18, up to \$829 per year. This initiative will lift an estimated 8,400 children and their families out of poverty.
- › Introduce a legislated Poverty Reduction Strategy with targets and timelines.

2. Take practical steps to improve income assistance

- › Immediately tie all income assistance rates to inflation, double earning exemptions for employable recipients, and allow a child maintenance exemption.
- › Increase income assistance rates for all singles and couples by \$20 per month within two years.

3. Protect and respect vulnerable people

- › Strengthen Community Living BC by conducting an independent review and providing more funding for direct services.
- › Better protect vulnerable children by increasing front-line staff at the Ministry of Children and Families.

- › Develop an urban Aboriginal strategy in partnership with Aboriginal and First Nations organizations, and increase support for services provided by Aboriginal Friendship Centres.
- › Move forward with the devolution of child and family services and child protection to First Nations and Aboriginal communities.
- › Extend to all Woodlands School survivors the opportunity to apply for redress.

4. Expand affordable housing

- › Build up to 1,500 units of affordable non-profit, co-operative and rental housing for low- and moderate-income families, seniors and individuals each year by leveraging the existing \$250 million Housing Endowment Fund to support partnerships and equity contributions with local governments, the private sector, and the non-profit and co-operative housing sectors.
- › Strengthen and rebalance the Residential Tenancy Act and Manufactured Home Act to better protect tenants and landlords.

5. Strengthen access to justice and improve community safety

- › Improve legal aid, and take pressure off the courts by expanding the use of duty counsels, dispute resolution services for families, poverty law services and Aboriginal legal services.

BC had the highest level of child poverty in Canada between 2002 and 2010, and currently has the second highest.

- › Strengthen and protect human rights to ensure all citizens are treated with dignity and respect.
- › Support crime prevention and restorative justice initiatives.

6. Enhance women's equality

- › Establish a Ministry of Women's Equality to promote social and economic equality through all government programs and enhance services to women and children.
- › Address the recommendations made by the Missing Women Inquiry.

IMPROVING YOUR HEALTH CARE

Public health care is at the heart of a
healthy and more equal society

KEY PRIORITY

IMPROVE CARE FOR BC SENIORS, PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES & THOSE LIVING WITH CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Public health care is at the heart of a healthy and more equal society. It's a powerful expression of our shared obligations to each other as citizens. It's also an important part of our economy, keeping our citizens healthy and providing us a significant competitive advantage over our neighbours south of the border.

Built over generations, public health care in BC is delivered by highly trained professionals who are dedicated to providing the best possible care for hundreds of thousands of British Columbians each year.

We are rightly proud of our health care system, but we can't be complacent if we want to preserve and improve it for future generations. New technologies and increasing demand are driving up the cost of health care. The federal government is cutting the Canada Health Transfer, which will dramatically reduce the resources available to fund health care delivery. In addition, the cost of prescription drugs continues to grow.

Over the last 12 years, the BC Liberals have done little to deal with these challenges. Instead, they have chosen to increase privatization, cut long-term care and home support services, and cut front-line mental health services.

As a result of this short-term thinking, waitlists for some important procedures have grown, many emergency rooms are overcrowded, and patient care – particularly for seniors – has suffered. As a result of cuts to long-term care, mental health support and home support services, many citizens requir-

ing those services are instead treated in expensive acute care hospital beds. This drives up overall health care costs and puts even more pressure on emergency rooms and waitlists.

The BC Liberals now say they will cut even further, reducing spending on health care to well below what's needed to maintain core patient services. Their last budget arbitrarily decreased overall health spending to create the illusion of a balanced budget.

British Columbians can
choose change for the
better – one practical
step at a time

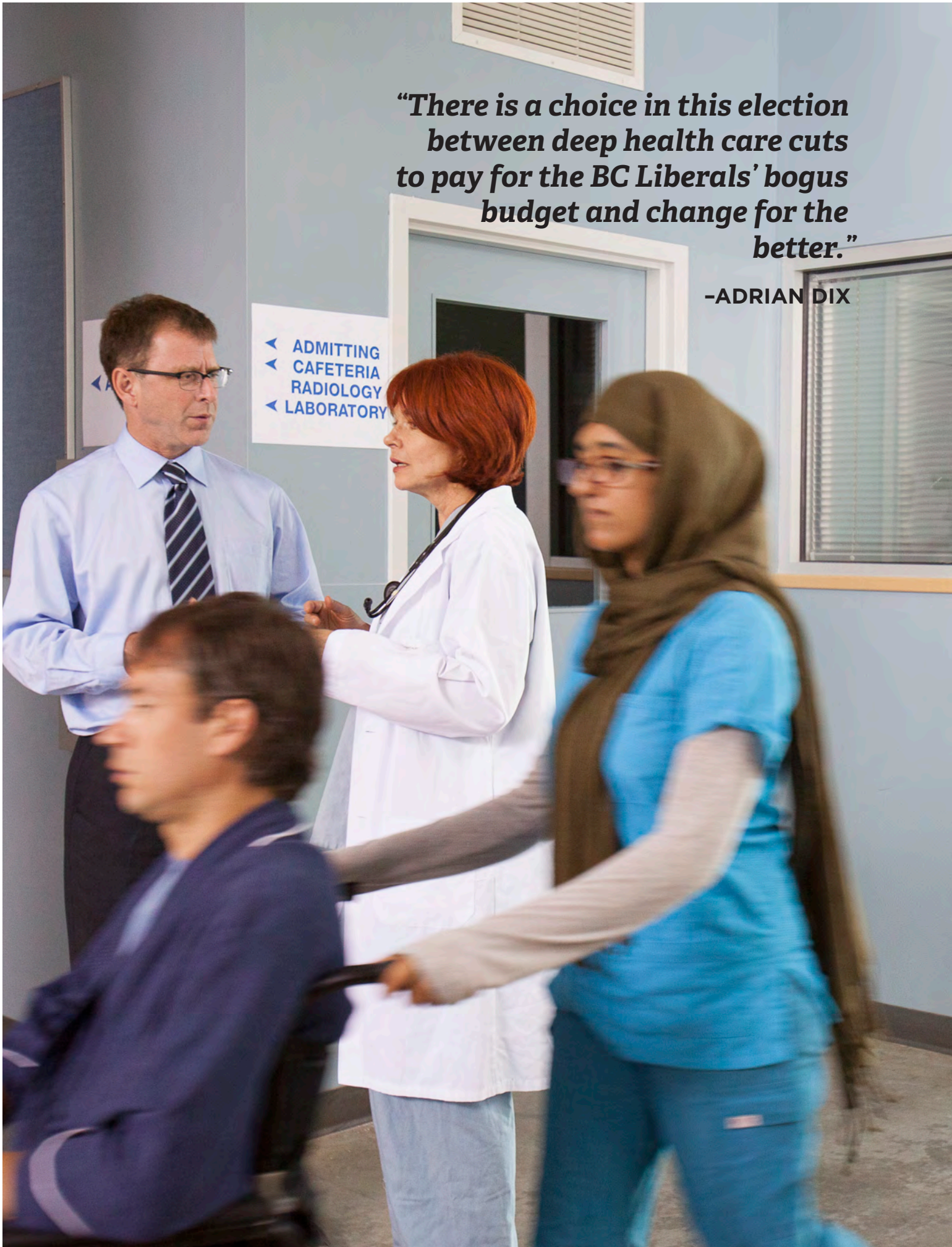
Adrian Dix and the New Democrats will take practical and affordable steps to increase efficiencies, improve accountability, and provide better care.

Those steps include improving care for seniors, people with disabilities and people with chronic conditions, providing better front-line mental health care, particularly for children, and increasing access to primary care services, particularly in rural areas.

Our platform places a strong emphasis on the better use of health dollars. We will invest in prevention, and in additional health supports such as nurse practitioners, midwives and rehabilitation professionals. We will work to reduce the cost of prescription drugs.

***“There is a choice in this election
between deep health care cuts
to pay for the BC Liberals’ bogus
budget and change for the
better.”***

-ADRIAN DIX



The BC NDP will invest in innovation, incorporate cost-saving technologies, and learn from best practices in Canada and around the world. We will build partnerships to leverage the opportunities that come from BC being home to a vital and growing life sciences and health research sector.

These steps will help control costs and improve care to you and your family. By strengthening alternative levels of care, they will help take the pressure off acute care ERs and reduce waitlists. They support quality public health care, one of the strongest expressions of British Columbians' shared commitment to a fair and compassionate society.

Those steps include improving care for seniors, people with disabilities and people with chronic conditions, improvements in front-line mental health care, particularly for children, and increasing access to primary care services, particularly in rural areas.

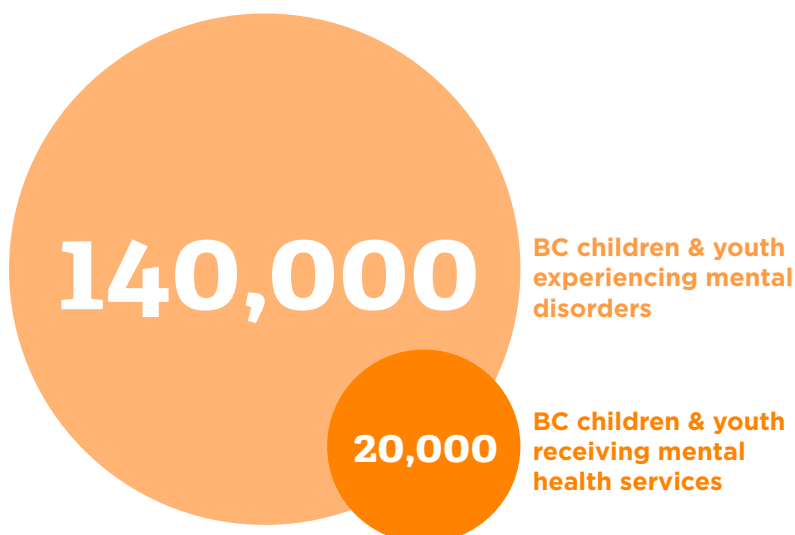
A BC NDP GOVERNMENT WILL:

1. Improve home support and community care

- › Expand home support and community care for seniors, people with disabilities and people with chronic and complex conditions.
- › Improve service levels in BC's residential care facilities, including improved standards of care for bathing, toileting, recreational activities and culturally appropriate care.
- › Establish an independent Seniors' Representative.

2. Increase access to mental health & addiction services

- › Enhance treatment and outreach services for children and youth, and renew funding for Community Action Initiatives to provide mental health and addiction outreach services.



Source: BC Medical Journal & BC Ministry of Children and Family Development

3. Strengthen primary and community health services to relieve pressure on acute care, especially in rural areas

- › Improve access to multi-disciplinary health clinics and teams including nurse practitioners, rehabilitation professionals, psychologists, social workers, midwives and other health professionals.

- › Extend insulin pump coverage to young adults aged 19 to 25, as is done in Saskatchewan.

4. Develop a Rural Acute Care Initiative to improve acute care and emergency services in hospitals across BC

- › Rebuild basic surgery, obstetrics, diagnostics and critical care in targeted rural hospitals.

5. Improve quality and reduce costs

- › Renew and redefine the Health Quality Council to drive positive change and innovation within BC's health care system.
- › Restore the Therapeutic Initiative's role as BC's drug watchdog and make its expertise available to private drug plans, clinicians and consumers.
- › Expand province-wide academic detailing to ensure prescribers are informed about the most appropriate drug use, and provide physicians with timely expert feedback on their prescribing patterns and trends.
- › Expand BC's low cost drug program.

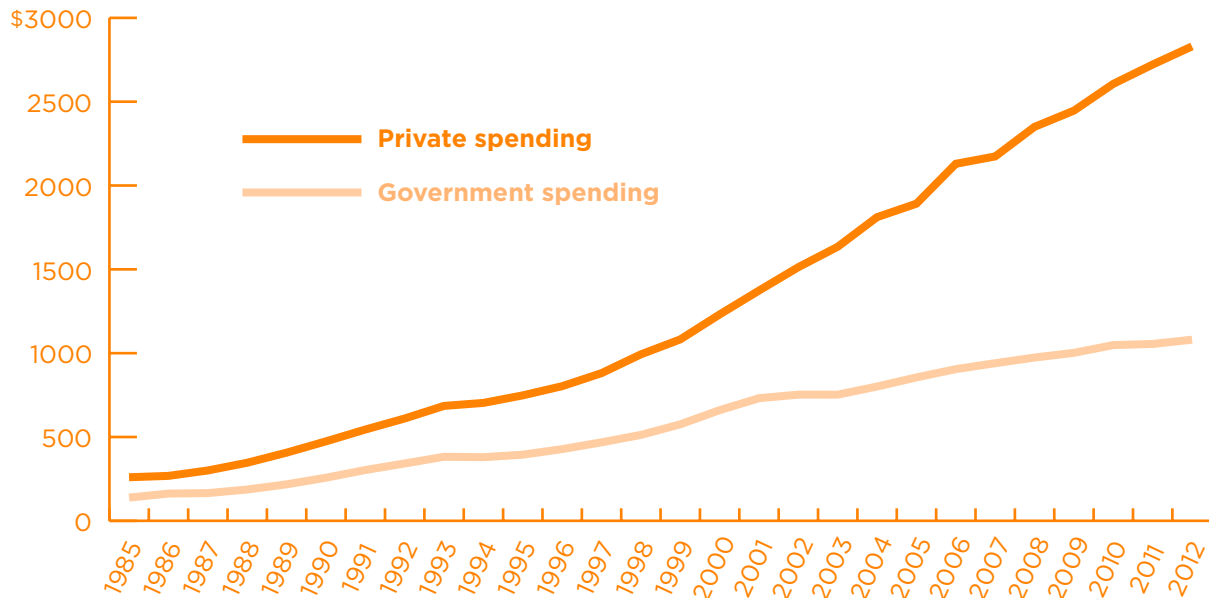
370,000

Number of patients in acute care who could use an alternate level of care in 2010

Source: BC Ministry of Health



BC Prescription Drug Costs are Rising (per capita spending)



Source: Canadian Institute of Health Information, 2012



SUPPORTING BC'S RESOURCE ECONOMY AND RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Our forests, farmlands, mineral deposits, and fisheries have supported generations of British Columbians in proud communities, large and small, in every corner of the province. And they still do.

KEY PRIORITY

INVEST IN HEALTHY FORESTS AND A STRONG LAND BASE

British Columbia was built on its resource wealth. Our forests, farmlands, mineral deposits and fisheries have supported generations of British Columbians in proud communities, large and small, in every corner of the province. And they still do.

But over the last 12 years, the BC Liberals seem to have given up on industries like forestry. They have chased “boom and bust” policies, choosing to create needless uncertainty and pushing many Northern BC, Interior and Vancouver Island communities to the brink. When world prices for our resources were high, they squandered the opportunity, failing to invest in the future of resource communities.

Today the BC Liberals want to gamble our entire economic future on just one promising but still uncertain industry – liquefied natural gas – while paying less and less attention to the other key industries that power our resource economy.

For example, the volume of raw logs exported has doubled since 2009 to 5.7 million cubic meters in 2012, with no plan to curtail the flow. Every single raw log shipped out of our province represents lost jobs and wasted opportunity for thousands of British Columbians.

The pine beetle epidemic has destroyed millions of acres of forest lands. In the face of that devastation, the BC Liberals chose to cut funding for planting new trees. They also cut the programs that provide the province with a clear picture of its forest inventory and inform sound long-term management of the resource.

When economic crises hit, communities are too often left to fend for themselves without help for economic transitioning and support from the government in Victoria. Since 2001, more than 70 forestry operations have closed in BC. More than 30,000 forest jobs have been lost. The response from the BC Liberals has been to ignore our forest sector.

Like forestry, BC’s agriculture, mining, and oil and gas industries generate enormous wealth for our province, and provide tens of thousands of jobs for British Columbians. Thanks to BC Liberal neglect, these industries are also looking for economic stability, policy direction and a long-term vision from government. For example, Liberal delays in permitting are causing instability and uncertainty for resource industries, particularly in mining.

British Columbians can choose change for the better – one practical step at a time

Adrian Dix and the New Democrats understand that BC’s future is linked to a healthy and diversified resource economy. The wealth and jobs generated by our resources support every British Columbian, urban and rural, funding the public services we all count on.

The BC NDP will make significant new investments to help grow a competitive and profitable forest industry and to improve the health of BC forests. We will support industry-led efforts to expand global



“BC’s future is linked to a healthy and diversified resource economy. We will take practical steps to grow competitive and profitable resource industries.”

–ADRIAN DIX

markets. We will work to restrict the export of raw logs, limiting export to that which is surplus to the needs of BC manufacturing and communities. Updating the forest inventory – critical for sustainable management decisions – will be a key priority because much of the current inventory is 25 years out of date. We will work with forest communities in a coordinated and effective way in times of economic crisis.

In addition, the BC NDP is committed to developing local markets and increasing market share for BC food producers. We will take steps to offer stability and support to the agricultural sector, strengthen our regional economies, promote environmental stewardship and foster food security, quality and safety.

New Democrats will also take practical steps to support our job-generating mining industry. We will provide direction and support to fully realize the economic potential offered by liquefied natural gas, helping to build this new industry in a responsible and sustainable manner.

A BC NDP GOVERNMENT WILL:

1. Invest in healthy forests and a strong land base

- Implement a \$100 million, five-year strategic and operational plan for forest resources to:
 - Double seedlings planted by government on Crown land to 50 million a year and update resource inventories.
 - Enhance Ministry of Forests research capacity, as well as local and regional engagement on land use planning.
- Address the critical shortage of skilled workers in the resource industries.

- Work with industry and provide tangible support for industry-led efforts to identify new global markets and increase forest product exports.
- Use BC logs to create BC jobs. We will work with stakeholders to reduce raw log exports and create more value-added forestry jobs in British Columbia.
- Establish a Jobs Protection Commissioner to support communities and industries in transition and facing timber supply shortages due to the impact of the pine beetle infestation. The commissioner will work to minimize job loss, help local economies to adapt, and enhance the long-term economic competitiveness of resource industries.
- Protect rural communities through advance preparation and a coordinated response to severe wildfire seasons.

2. Increase support for agriculture and food security

Grow BC

- Renew the Agricultural Land Commission and protect the Agricultural Land Reserve.
- Help orchardists with replanting and other input costs, and provide more direct support to organic and conventional farmers through enhanced extension and field services for marketing and operations.

Feed BC

- › Help create a stable market for local growers through pilot programs to promote purchases of BC produce by BC's hospitals and long-term care facilities. This measure will also improve diets and health outcomes.

Buy BC

- › Strengthen support for the Buy BC marketing program for BC agricultural products.
- › Improve access to markets for BC's award-winning craft distillery industry by reducing the LDB markup, and by allowing direct sales to restaurants, bars, and on-site.

3. Promote and support sustainable mining and exploration

- › Encourage mineral exploration by ensuring an average 55-day turnaround for Notice of Work permits, extending the mining flow through share tax credit, and maintaining support for Geoscience BC.

- › Improve mine development opportunities by enhancing the Environmental Assessment process so certification decisions are reached in a more timely manner.
- › Strengthen operating mines by investing in mining-related skills training programs.

4. Promote and support sustainable LNG development

- › Support sustainable LNG development and export as part of a diversified and prosperous economy.
- › Ensure best practices around LNG and hydraulic fracturing or "fracking."
- › Encourage the development of green energy options to reduce the environmental footprint of LNG development.

5. Support sustainable fisheries and responsible aquaculture

- › Protect wild salmon stocks by working with the federal government to implement the Cohen Commission recommendations, and to support sustainable aquaculture.

6. Support rural economic development

- › Build on successful rural development initiatives developed by First Nations and rural communities, and renew regional and community trusts.



- Launched in 1993
- Used by over 1,200 companies for over 5,000 products
- 76% consumer awareness
- \$1.4 million annual cost
- Most successful government-industry marketing program
- Cut by Liberals in 2001



RESPECTING WORKING PEOPLE

Every worker deserves to be treated with respect in his or her workplace, and to work in safe conditions

KEY PRIORITY

TO PROMOTE SAFETY, RESPECT AT WORK, AND STABLE LABOUR RELATIONS

Every worker deserves to be treated with respect in his or her workplace, and to work in safe conditions.

Adrian Dix and the NDP will take practical steps to improve protections for workers. Our priority is to give giving non-union workers – who have the least power in dealing with employers – a fairer shake in the workplace.

In the last 12 years, the Liberals have rolled back basic employment rights. This has particularly affected low-paid workers in insecure jobs. We will strengthen minimum employment standards and improve enforcement to ensure these workers are treated with respect.

There are 70,000 temporary foreign workers in BC under a problem-plagued program controlled by Ottawa. There are questions about whether these workers are taking jobs from qualified British Columbians. In addition, due to language barriers and their unfamiliarity with the rights of workers in BC, many are particularly vulnerable to exploitation. We will work with the federal government to seek more BC control of this program. We will work to ensure these workers are not exploited.

Every year, far too many workers are injured or killed on the job. More must be done to improve safety at work, and to give seriously injured workers the support they need to return to work. The NDP will emphasize accident prevention and enforcement of health and safety rules to reduce workplace injuries and deaths.

The right of British Columbians to join unions is enshrined in the Constitution. Unions play a positive role in building a competitive economy and a thriving middle class. But work needs to be done to ensure that the rules around union certification are fair, and to remove barriers for workers who wish to exercise their legal rights.

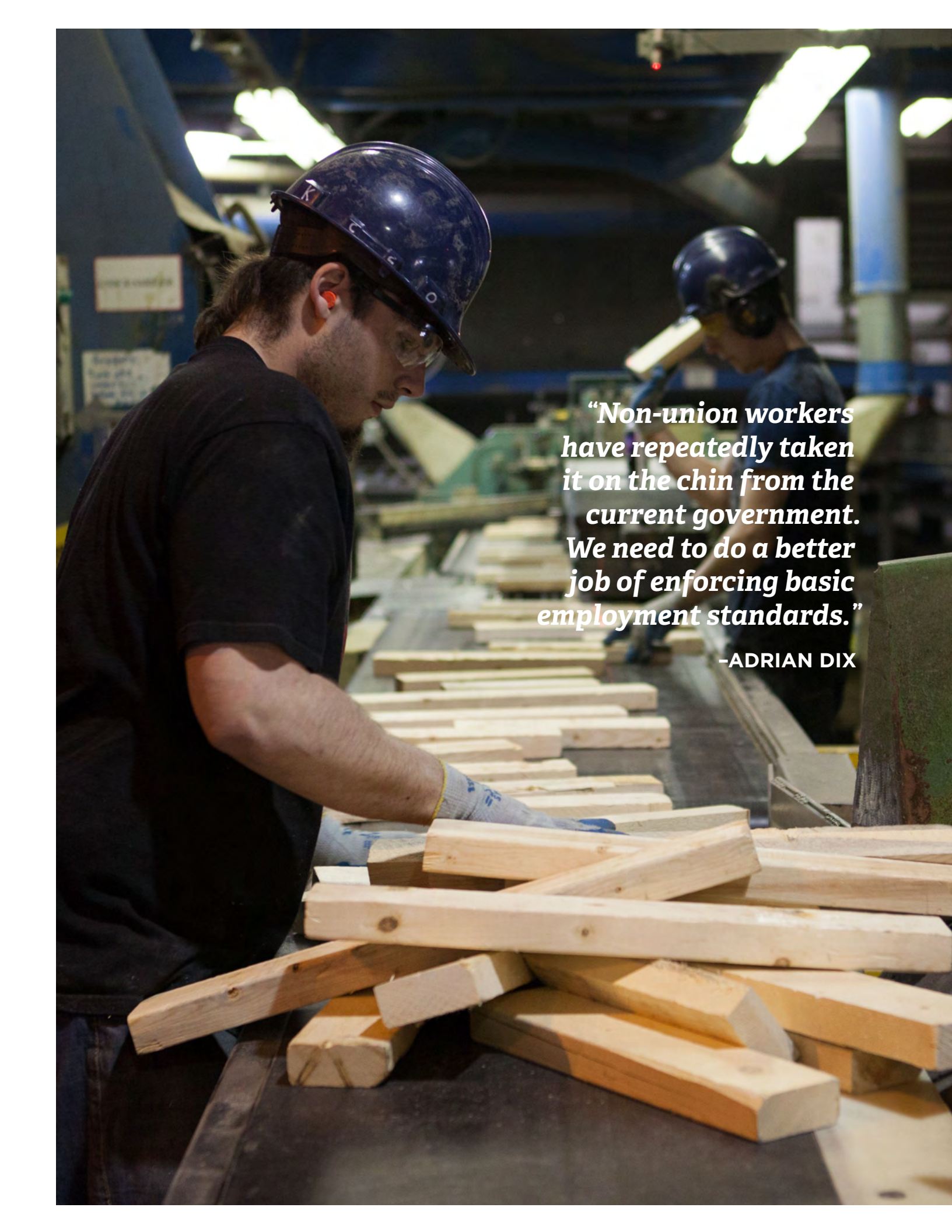
A BC NDP GOVERNMENT WILL:

1. Strengthen and enforce employment standards

- › Invest new resources to proactively enforce basic workplace standards.
- › End the Liberals' child labour practices by ensuring that kids under 15 who work get both their parents' approval and signoff from the Employment Standards Branch.
- › Help part-time workers by increasing the minimum call-in shift to three hours from the current two.
- › Starting April 1, 2014, tie the minimum wage to inflation, and eliminate the "server" wage.

2. Help for temporary foreign workers

- › Establish a toll-free helpline so temporary workers can obtain information about their rights, and report complaints, in their own language.

A photograph of a male worker in a blue hard hat and safety glasses, wearing a black t-shirt and gloves, working with a large pile of light-colored wooden planks in a factory setting. Another worker in a blue hard hat is visible in the background. The scene is lit with industrial overhead lights.

“Non-union workers have repeatedly taken it on the chin from the current government. We need to do a better job of enforcing basic employment standards.”

-ADRIAN DIX

RESPECTING WORKING PEOPLE

- › Work with the federal government to give BC more control over the approval of employer applications to bring in temporary foreign workers, and press Ottawa for a comprehensive review of the program.
- › Repeal Bills 27, 28 and 29, the infamous legislation that tore up legal contracts, and restore free collective bargaining in the health and education sectors.

3. Promote safer workplaces

- › Emphasize accident prevention and health and safety enforcement to reduce workplace injuries and deaths.
- › Encourage more investment in vocational rehabilitation programs for workers who have been injured on the job, and restore heart disease among firefighters as a recognized presumptive disease.
- › Establish a more effective governance system for the Workers' Compensation Board to give employers and unions a greater role in decision making.

4. Unionized workplaces

- › Form a special panel, under the Labour Code, to recommend changes to ensure workers can freely exercise their right to join a union. Within 90 days, the panel will consult interested parties and recommend possible changes regarding certification options, including the card check model, and ways to help employers and unions arrive at first contract settlements through mediation.
- › Invest new resources to make the BC Labour Relations Board more efficient and effective in helping employers and unions to solve disputes.

RESPECTING FIRST NATIONS AND ABORIGINAL PEOPLE

Economically and culturally vibrant First Nation and Aboriginal communities are critical to BC's future and to meeting the challenges ahead

KEY PRIORITY

REVITALIZE THE TREATY PROCESS & SUPPORT FIRST NATIONS' ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Economically and culturally vibrant First Nation and Aboriginal communities are critical to BC's future and to meeting the challenges ahead – from sustainable economic development, to fighting climate change, to reducing deep and growing inequalities in our society.

For generations, First Nations and Aboriginal people have struggled for justice, reconciliation and their rightful place in Canada. Their strength and determination in the face of deliberate and sustained efforts at cultural assimilation is a testament to the human spirit and the extraordinary resilience of peoples who settled this land long before the first contact with European cultures.

Over the last generation, First Nations have made important progress. Forward-looking treaties have been signed, successful economic development initiatives undertaken, and First Nations and Aboriginal communities have led the effort to improve services in health, childcare, education and training.

As far as we have come, the road ahead remains long. First Nations and Aboriginal people, like all British Columbians, are rightly frustrated with the slow pace of change. Too many Aboriginal people are unemployed. Far too many live in poverty. Too many children start life without the same opportunities as others to fulfill their potential. The treaty process is long, cumbersome and slow.

British Columbians can choose change for the better – one practical step at a time

Adrian Dix and the New Democrats believe that real progress can be made over the next four years. Utilizing the *UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* as a guide for legislation and policy development, we will work with First Nations peoples, Metis and Aboriginal groups towards a better future for our province.

“Resolving outstanding First Nations treaty issues is the first issue I would raise with the Prime Minister because it’s central to addressing inequality and economic development.”

–ADRIAN DIX

A BC NDP GOVERNMENT WILL:

1. Improve relationships

- › Build government-to-government relationships based on respect and recognition between the province and First Nations.
- › Work to provide a stronger, more united voice to influence federal decision-making.
- › Invite the First Nations Leadership Council and all Chiefs – within 100 days of forming government – to develop a four year action plan to improve economic opportunity and educational outcomes for Aboriginal students,

move towards devolution of children and family services, improve our justice system and tackle other key priorities, such as reducing poverty.

2. Work towards reconciliation

- › Revitalize progress towards lasting treaties by making the treaty process more responsive and better able to meet the diverse needs of First Nations.
- › Work closely with non-treaty First Nations to ensure a strong relationship with those seeking another path to reconciliation.



PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT

British Columbians understand that environmental stewardship and a strong, diversified and sustainable economy go hand-in-hand

KEY PRIORITY

OPPOSE THE NORTHERN GATEWAY PIPELINE AND FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE

We live in one of the most diverse, spectacular and sensitive natural environments on earth. It's part of our shared heritage, and a source of pride for British Columbians.

It's not surprising that British Columbians are world leaders in environmental activism, protection and sustainability. After all, this is where Canada's environmental movement got its start.

British Columbians understand that environmental stewardship and a strong, diversified and sustainable economy go hand-in-hand. Time and again we have shown that both economic and environmental sustainability are partners, not opponents.

For a time, it looked as though the BC Liberals had caught up to British Columbians on environmental issues. Today, however, the government seems to have lost interest in fighting climate change.

For example, the effort to make BC's public sector carbon neutral has ended in scandal. The Auditor General recently reported on millions of dollars of mishandled funds related to the government's Pacific Carbon Trust.

The 2013 throne speech and budget failed to even mention climate change.

And the BC Liberals handed over decision-making power on the Northern Gateway Pipeline to Ottawa. They failed to participate fully in the review process. They abdicated their responsibility to speak on behalf of the public interest.

British Columbians can choose change for the better – one practical step at a time

Adrian Dix and the New Democrats believe that BC can lead the way in promoting environ-

mental stewardship and sustainability. Indeed, tomorrow's economic leaders will be the places that reduce carbon emissions by developing green technologies, investing in green infrastructure, and supporting green industries.

That's why Adrian Dix and the BC NDP will invest carbon tax funds in new transit and climate action. We will put new resources into retrofitting buildings to promote energy efficiency. And we will revitalize the land base with support for silviculture and forest health.

We will also fulfill our responsibility to ensure major projects in BC meet rigorous environmental standards. To proceed, new developments must not pose unacceptable risks to our economic, social or environmental interests.

That's the key reason why Adrian Dix and the New Democrats firmly oppose the Enbridge Northern Gateway Pipeline (NGP). It puts our environment and the economy in Northern BC at risk. It's simply not in BC's interests. Similarly, in regards to the proposed Kinder Morgan pipeline expansion, we do not believe the Port of Vancouver should be converted into a major oil export facility.

The BC NDP takes climate change seriously. We will improve the public accountability, best practices and long-term environmental sustainability of our emerging natural gas industry and the practice of hydraulic fracturing on which it depends.

Adrian Dix and the New Democrats believe this responsible approach to environmental stewardship will help put BC at the forefront of tomorrow's green economy, contributing to a sustainable and healthy future for every British Columbian.



***“Change for the better means a made-in-BC
approach to protecting our environment
and our coasts.”***

-ADRIAN DIX

A BC NDP GOVERNMENT WILL:

1. Oppose the Northern Gateway Pipeline

- › Withdraw from the NGP equivalency agreement on environmental assessment with the federal government within one week of forming government. We will exercise BC's constitutional and legal powers to fully protect BC's interests.
- › Maintain the moratorium on offshore oil exploration, drilling and tankers on the North Coast.
- › Establish a made-in-BC environmental assessment of the Enbridge Northern Gateway Pipeline, the proposed Kinder Morgan expansion, and any other heavy oil pipeline proposal.

2. Fight climate change

- › Renew BC's Climate Action Plan to meet BC's legislated greenhouse gas emission reduction targets, and lead the call for a national energy and climate strategy.
- › Invest a portion of carbon tax revenues to enhance and expand transit service and options, build and rehabilitate green infrastructure, and support climate solutions in communities across BC.
- › Gradually expand the carbon tax to include "venting" emissions from oil and gas operations.

- › Expand energy efficiency retrofit programs for residential and commercial buildings, and dissolve the Pacific Carbon Trust to direct tens of millions of levies paid by hospitals, Crown corporations and post-secondary schools back to those public sector institutions to fund energy-efficiency upgrades.

3. Guarantee high standards and best practices

- › Renew and strengthen the environmental assessment process to ensure BC will have rigorous, science-based environmental standards, real and meaningful consultation with First Nations, and efficient timelines.
- › Introduce new legislation to ban the use of cosmetic pesticides, and to protect endangered species and habitats.
- › Complete the Water Act Modernization process and introduce groundwater regulation.
- › Work with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans to implement the Cohen Commission recommendations to protect wild salmon.
- › Undertake an independent, expert-led public review of fracking and the impact of oil and gas development.

4. Strengthen BC's parks system and protected areas

- › Begin to restore BC Parks funding for conservation officers, park rangers,

and nature interpretation programs that support tourism and help connect young people with BC's outdoors.

- › Protect significant ecological areas like wetlands, estuaries and valuable old-growth forests.
- › Ensure government decisions are supported by robust science-based evidence to better manage BC's wildlife and fisheries resources, and strengthen monitoring and enforcement capacity.

5. Implement a sustainable energy strategy

- › Renew BC Hydro's mandate to meet BC's electricity requirements in a cost-effective, environmentally and socially responsible manner, and to focus on the development of renewable sources of energy.
- › Eliminate the BC Liberals' restrictions on the development of new power sources by BC Hydro.
- › Revitalize the BC Utilities Commission as an effective regulator of BC Hydro.
- › Pursue aggressive conservation and efficiency targets, and recognize the Columbia River Treaty downstream benefits as a provincial resource that can be used to meet future demands.
- › Within the limits of existing contracts, review Independent Power Project contracts to ensure British Columbians receive the best value for their dollars.





PROMOTING GOOD GOVERNMENT

For too many British Columbians, “politics” has become a dirty word. Every political party has to take responsibility for the growing public cynicism that weakens our province’s democratic institutions

KEY PRIORITY

RESTORE FAITH IN OUR POLITICAL PROCESS

For too many British Columbians, “politics” has become a dirty word. Every political party has to take responsibility for the growing public cynicism that weakens our province’s democratic institutions.

The level of public disengagement can be measured in declining voter participation. In the 2009 provincial election, 49 per cent of eligible voters didn’t show up at the polls.

This lack of participation has serious consequences for our democracy and our society.

At its best, politics is about people coming together to solve common problems, collectively and democratically. Of course, there will be serious and heartfelt debates among citizens. That’s as it should be. It’s how we get to good decisions. But a generous and constructive politics has the potential to bring people together to solve big problems – problems we can’t overcome in a mean-spirited political culture that divides us.

At its worst, politics in BC too often degenerates into name-calling, attack ads, and personal smears. When the government spends millions of taxpayer dollars on partisan advertising—as the BC Liberals have done—while emergency rooms and classrooms struggle with overcrowding, British Columbians rightly begin to doubt whether government can be a positive force in their lives.

British Columbians’ frustration with our political process is made worse when the government can’t get the fundamentals right, forcing taxpayers to foot the bill on huge cost overruns for projects like the BC Place Roof.


Negative politics push people away from the democratic process. By straying from the government’s fundamental obligation to serve British Columbians, negative politics drive us all farther apart. Worst of all, negative politics undermine our ability to work together to solve common problems, to advance the larger public interest, and to create a better future in British Columbia.

British Columbians can choose change for the better, one practical step at a time

Adrian Dix and the New Democrats are calling on every party to rise to a higher standard, and thereby begin to rebuild trust in our democracy. We believe government must get back to the fundamentals.

That’s why British Columbians won’t be seeing negative ads from the BC NDP in this campaign. You can expect us to be very critical of the BC Liberal record – as we have been in this platform. But in attacking the issues, we won’t be attacking our opponents. Premier Christy Clark, Conservative Leader John Cummins, and Green Party Leader Jane Sterk are dedicated British Columbians, committed to a better province.

Whatever role the people of BC give us in May—in government or in opposition—you can expect that New Democrats will continue to focus on the issues, not the personalities, and advocate for changes that will improve our democracy and our government.

A man with short brown hair and glasses, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and orange striped tie, stands at a podium with his hands clasped. He is looking slightly to his left. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with a wooden building and trees.

*Negative politics
undermine our
ability to work
together to solve
common problems,
to advance the
larger public
interest, and to
create a better
future in BC.*

A BC NDP GOVERNMENT WILL:

1. Enhance our democracy

- › Ban taxpayer-funded partisan advertising, and pass legislation to ensure all government advertising is reviewed and approved by the Auditor General.
- › Increase youth voter turnout by lowering the voter registration age to 16.
- › End corporate and union donations to political parties, and refer related issues to an all-party committee, including parties which are not represented in the Legislature.
- › Move the next provincial election to the fall of 2017 so voters will have complete and accurate information about provincial finances.

2. Restore openness and accountability

- › Strengthen Freedom of Information laws and empower legislative committees to undertake meaningful consultation with British Columbians.
- › Conduct a judicial inquiry into the sale of BC Rail.

3. Improve local autonomy

- › Recognize local governments as an independent, responsible and accountable order of government, and empower them to enact municipal finance reform.

- › Repeal the Significant Project Streamlining Act, end the P3 requirement for projects over \$50 million, and reinstate local decision making on the creation of resort municipalities.
- › Reform TransLink to allow elected municipal representation on the decision-making board.

Getting back to fundamentals

An NDP government will establish an external team of private sector and community leaders to plan for the long-term viability of debt-plagued BC Pavilion Corporation (PavCo), including the sale of BC Place stadium. The panel will also ensure other public assets managed by the Crown corporation are operated efficiently.

BC Place and the Vancouver Convention Centre are symbols of the mismanagement and misplaced priorities of the BC Liberals. Massive cost overruns on construction and renovations, along with a bungled naming rights deal, have saddled taxpayers with a mountain of debt.

PavCo, which has accumulated \$1.2 billion in debt including the cost of the \$519 million retractable roof, projects operating losses of \$60 million over the next three years.

The external team's mandate will include continued support for the long-term viability of the BC Lions and Vancouver Whitecaps sports franchises.

Any revenue from the possible sale of BC Place will be applied to pay down taxpayer-supported debt on the renovation project.

APPENDIX: FISCAL BACKGROUND AND PLAN

REAL LIBERAL DEFICIT

The BC Liberal government's 2013 Budget is not a balanced budget.

By removing the short-sighted sale of public assets from the budget and restating expenditure growth for vital public services to more realistic and prudent levels, the NDP estimates the real Liberal deficit to be \$790 million in 2013-14, \$847 million in 2014-15 and \$452 million in 2015-16.

Our re-calculation of the real Liberal deficit includes the forecast allowance from Budget 2013, used to recognize uncertainties in predicting future economic developments.

Real Liberal Deficit

	(\$millions)	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Restated revenue (minus asset sales)		43,912	44,836	46,377
Restated expense (with new growth rates)		(44,502)	(45,458)	(46,504)
Restated deficit before forecast allowance		(590)	(622)	(127)
Budget 2013 forecast allowance (unchanged)		(200)	(225)	(325)
Real Liberal Deficit		(790)	(847)	(452)

REVENUE AND REALLOCATIONS

The following prudent revenue measures fund our platform commitments:

- Corporate income tax rate increased from 11 to 12 per cent. Effective October 1, 2013, this measure will add \$100 million in revenue in 2013-14, and \$200 million in 2014-15 and 2015-16. British Columbia will still have the fifth-lowest corporate tax rate in Canada. There will be no increase to the small business rate or the small business earnings threshold.
- Corporation capital tax reinstated on financial institutions. Effective October 1, 2013, the NDP will reinstate the corporation capital tax on financial institutions. Banks will pay three per cent, while financial institutions with headquarters in BC including credit unions will pay one per cent. Credit unions with capital holdings of less than \$20 million will be exempt. This measure will add \$75 million in revenue in 2013-14, and \$150 million in 2014-15 and 2015-16.
- High income earners' personal income tax increased. Effective January 1, 2014, the top two per cent of high income earners in BC will see an increase to 19 per cent on taxable individual income above \$150,000. This measure will add \$50 million in revenue in 2013-14, \$200 million in 2014-15 and \$240 million in 2015-16.

- Carbon tax base expanded to vented emissions from oil and gas operations. Effective April 1, 2014, an NDP government will expand the application base of the carbon tax to include vented emissions from oil and gas operations, capturing an additional five per cent of carbon emissions in the province and contributing to British Columbia's climate action goals. This measure will add \$35 million in revenue in 2014-15, \$70 million in 2015-16, and \$100 million in 2016-17. The objective of this measure is to ultimately drive down emissions and stimulate innovation in the sector.
- Existing and budgeted BC Liberal government spending reallocated to new priorities. An NDP government will reallocate some program and discretionary spending to new priorities, shifting \$86 million in 2013-14, \$148 million in 2014-15 and \$328 million in 2015-16. Some examples of program reallocations include:
 - » *the BC Training and Education Savings Grant and Early Years Strategy will be repurposed into an Early Learning Innovation Fund.*
 - » *the Early Childhood Tax Benefit will be repurposed as part of a new poverty reduction strategy.*

BC NDP 2013-2016 Fiscal Plan

New Revenue / Reallocations (\$millions)	2013/14*	2014/15	2015/16
Corporate Income Tax			
Increase from 11% to 12%	100	200	200
Corporation Capital Tax on Financial Institutions			
3% for banks; 1% for head offices in BC and credit unions	75	150	150
Personal Income Tax (High income earners)			
19% on individual taxable income above \$150K	50	200	240
Carbon Tax			
Expand base to include vented emissions from oil and gas operations	0	35	70
Reallocations	86	148	328
Total new revenue and reallocations	311	733	988

*partial year

OPERATING SPENDING COMMITMENTS

The following tables lay out our platform spending commitments. Every dollar is accounted for. Our total spending does not exceed revenue measures. New Democrats will not add to the real Liberal deficit.


Building a Sustainable Economy and Creating New Jobs

	(millions)	2013/14*	2014/15	2015/16
Make post-secondary education more affordable				
Student grant program		50	100	100
Scholarship fund (one time)		20	0	0
Increase the number of skilled workers				
Skills training and apprenticeship		15	25	40
Help small and local business thrive				
Extend BC Training Tax Credit program to co-op hires		0	5	8
Expand Buy BC		0	2	3
"Local Business First" government procurement		1	1	1
Support BC's high-tech economy				
High-level tech talent strategy		0	1	1
Business accelerator program		1	1	1
Grow BC's creative economy				
Film tax credits		0	15	45
BC Arts Council		0	0	5
Recognition for immigrants				
Foreign credentials		0	2	2
BC Ferries				
Freeze ferry fares at current rates		0	20	20
Total		87	172	226

Investing in Our Future, Improving Public Education

	(millions)	2013/14*	2014/15	2015/16
Improve learning conditions for our children				
Classroom support		75	90	100
BC Program for the Awareness and Learning of Science (Science World)		1	1	1
Preserve First Nations languages				
First Nations' heritage, language and culture.		1	1	2
Investing in childcare and early learning				
Licensed infant and toddler childcare fee reduction and more spaces		10	30	60
Total		87	122	163

*partial year

A photograph of Adrian Dix, a man with glasses and a dark suit, smiling and holding a black folder. He is standing in front of a crowd of people. In the background, a person holds a blue sign that says "PRACTICAL AT A TIME". To the right, a person holds an orange sign that says "CHANGE". In the foreground, a large orange sign with white text reads "CHANGE for ONE PRACTICAL". Two microphones are positioned in front of the sign.

*"We're going to be clear
about what we want to
do and how we are going
to pay for it."*

-ADRIAN DIX

CHANGE *for*
ONE PRACTICAL

APPENDIX

Reducing Poverty and Inequality

	(millions)	2013/14*	2014/15	2015/16
Significantly reduce child poverty				
BC Family Bonus program		0	210	210
Take practical steps to improve income assistance				
Tie all IA rates to CPI and increase earnings exemptions		10	20	22
Increase IA rates for all singles and couples by \$20 per month		0	0	27
Protect and respect vulnerable people				
CLBC		10	10	15
MCFD		8	8	8
Aboriginal Friendship Centres		3	3	3
Strengthen access to justice and improve community safety				
Legal aid		2	5	10
Crime prevention and restorative justice programs		2	3	3
Enhance women's equality				
Community services for women and children		2	2	3
Total		37	261	301

Improving Your Health Care

	(millions)	2013/14*	2014/15	2015/16
Improve home support and community care				
Home support and community care		5	25	40
Standards of care in residential care facilities		0	0	35
Independent Seniors' Representative		1	2	8
Increase access to mental health and addiction services				
Outreach services for children and youth		5	10	20
Community Action Initiatives		2	3	5
Strengthen primary and community health services				
Multi-disciplinary health clinics and teams		10	10	15
Extend insulin pump coverage to 19-25 year olds		0	1	2
Develop a Rural Acute Care Initiative				
Rebuild critical care in targeted rural hospitals		0	15	30
Improve quality and reduce costs				
Health Quality Council		1	2	2
Independent drug research		1	2	2
Total		25	70	159

*partial year

Supporting BC's Resource Economy and Rural Economic Development

	(millions)	2013/14*	2014/15	2015/16
Invest in healthy forests and a strong land base				
5-year strategic and operational plan for forest resources		30	40	60
Increase support for agriculture and food security				
Grow BC, Buy BC, Feed BC		0	8	8
Promote and support sustainable mining and exploration				
55-day turnaround for Notice of Work permits		2	3	3
Total		32	51	71

Respecting Working People

	(millions)	2013/14*	2014/15	2015/16
Respecting working people				
Employment standards		2	3	5
Labour Relations Board		0	2	3
Total		2	5	8

Protecting our Environment

	(millions)	2013/14*	2014/15	2015/16
Oppose the NGP				
Made-in-BC environmental assessment		2	2	0
Fight climate change				
Transit, green projects, retrofits		30	40	50
Guarantee high standards and best practices				
Environmental assessment process and capacity		0	1	4
Protect endangered species and habitats		1	1	1
Strengthen BC's parks system and protected areas				
Conservation officers, park rangers, nature interpretation programs		3	3	5
Total		36	47	60

Promoting Good Government

	(millions)	2013/14*	2014/15	2015/16
Enhancing democracy				
Judicial inquiry into the sale of BC Rail		5	5	0
Total		5	5	0

*partial year

Spending Summary

	(millions)	2013/14*	2014/15	2015/16
Building a Sustainable Economy and Creating New Jobs		87	172	226
Investing in Our Future, Improving Public Education		87	122	163
Reducing Poverty and Inequality		37	261	301
Improving Your Health Care		25	70	159
Supporting BC's Resource Economy and Rural Economic Development		32	51	71
Respecting Working People		2	5	8
Protecting our Environment		36	47	60
Promoting Good Government		5	5	0
TOTAL NEW SPENDING		311	733	988

*partial year

CAPITAL SPENDING COMMITMENTS

Capital investment is an essential component of building a prosperous BC with a high quality of life. An NDP government will use capital investments to keep BC moving, healthy and educated.

We will focus capital investments on real needs and priorities. An NDP government would not have sunk half a billion dollars into a new roof for BC Place. Instead, we will prudently invest in educational, health, transportation and community infrastructure that is truly needed across the province.

The current budget lays out a total of \$18.3 billion over the fiscal plan in capital spending on schools, hospitals, roads, bridges, hydroelectric projects and other infrastructure across BC. An NDP government will continue with projects that are currently underway.

These are challenging fiscal times, and we will not be making capital commitments beyond what is available in the current capital plan.

OUR TEAM

The BC NDP is proud to have exceptional candidates across the province for the May 14 election



PREET RAI
ABBOTSFORD-MISSION



LAKHVINDER JHAJ
ABBOTSFORD SOUTH



SUKHI DHAMI
ABBOTSFORD WEST



SCOTT FRASER
ALBERNI-PACIFIC RIM



SAM HANCHEROFF
BOUNDARY-SIMILKAMEEN



KATHY CORRIGAN
BURNABY-DEER LAKE



RAJ CHOUHAN
BURNABY-EDMONDS



JANE SHIN
BURNABY-LOUGHEED



JANET ROUTLEDGE
BURNABY NORTH



CHARLIE WYSE
CARIBOO-CHILCOTIN



DUNCAN BARNETT
CARIBOO NORTH



PATTI MACAHONIC
CHILLIWACK



GWEN O'MAHONY
CHILLIWACK-HOPE



NORM MACDONALD
COLUMBIA RIVER
REVELSTOKE



KASSANDRA DYCKE
COMOX



CHRIS WILSON
COQUITLAM-BURKE
MOUNTAIN



SELINA ROBINSON
COQUITLAM
MAILLARDVILLE



BILL ROUTLEY
COWICHAN VALLEY



SYLVIA BISHOP
DELTA NORTH



NIC SLATER
DELTA SOUTH



**MAURINE
KARAGIANIS**
ESQUIMALT-ROYAL ROADS



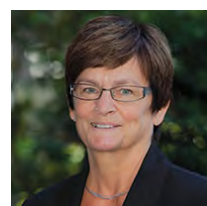
SHANE DYSON
FORT LANGLEY
ALDERGROVE



HARRY LALI
FRASER-NICOLA



JOHN HORGAN
JUAN DE FUCA



KATHY KENDALL
KAMLOOPS-NORTH
THOMPSON



TOM FRIEDMAN
KAMLOOPS-SOUTH
THOMPSON



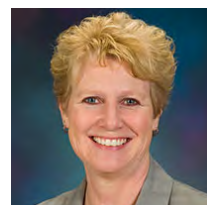
MIKE NUYENS
KELOWNA-LAKE
COUNTRY



TISH LAKES
KELOWNA-MISSION



NORMA BLISSETT
KOOTENAY EAST



KATRINE CONROY
KOOTENAY WEST

BC NDP PLATFORM 2013



ANDREW MERCIER
LANGLEY



MIKE BOCKING
MAPLE RIDGE-MISSION



ELIZABETH ROSENAU
MAPLE RIDGE-PITT
MEADOWS



LEONARD KROG
NANAIMO



DOUG ROUTLEY
NANAIMO-NORTH
COWICHAN



**SUSSANNE
SKIDMORE-HEWLETT**
NECHAKO LAKES



JUDY DARCY
NEW WESTMINSTER



MICHELLE MUNGALL
NELSON-CRESTON



JENNIFER RICE
NORTH COAST



CLAIRE TREVENA
NORTH ISLAND



CRAIG KEATING
NORTH VANCOUVER
LONSDALE



JIM HANSON
NORTH VANCOUVER
SEYMOUR



JESSICA VAN DER VEEN
OAK BAY-GORDON
HEAD



BARRY AVIS
PARKSVILLE-QUALICUM



JUDY FOX-MCGUIRE
PEACE RIVER NORTH



DARWIN WREN
PEACE RIVER SOUTH



RICHARD CANNINGS
PENTICTON



JOE TRASOLINI
PORT MOODY
COQUITLAM



MIKE FARNWORTH
PORT COQUITLAM



NICHOLAS SIMONS
POWELL RIVER
SUNSHINE COAST



BOBBY DEEPAK
PRINCE GEORGE
MACKENZIE



SHERRY OGASAWARA
PRINCE GEORGE
VALEMOUNT



FRANK HUANG
RICHMOND CENTRE



GIAN SIHOTA
RICHMOND EAST



SCOTT STEWART
RICHMOND STEVESTON



GARY HOLMAN
SAANICH NORTH AND
THE ISLANDS



LANA POPHAM
SAANICH SOUTH



STEVE GUNNER
SHUSWAP



ROBIN AUSTIN
SKEENA



DOUG DONALDSON
STIKINE

OUR TEAM



HARRY KOONER
SURREY-CLOVERDALE



JAGRUP BRAR
SURREY-FLEETWOOD



SUE HAMMELL
SURREY
GREEN TIMBERS



HARRY BAINS
SURREY-NEWTON



AMRIK MAHIL
SURREY-PANORAMA



AVTAR BAINS
SURREY-TYNEHEAD



BRUCE RALSTON
SURREY-WHALLEY



SUSAN KEEPING
SURREY-WHITE ROCK



GEORGE HEYMAN
VANCOUVER-FAIRVIEW



MATT TONER
VANCOUVER
FALSE CREEK



GABRIEL YIU
VANCOUVER
FRASERVUE



SHANE SIMPSON
VANCOUVER-HASTINGS



MABLE ELMORE
VANCOUVER
KENSINGTON



ADRIAN DIX
VANCOUVER-KINGSWAY



GEORGE CHOW
VANCOUVER-LANGARA



JENNY KWAN
VANCOUVER
MOUNT PLEASANT



DAVID EBY
VANCOUVER
POINT GREY



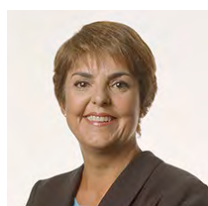
**NICHOLAS
SCAPILLATI**
VANCOUVER-QUILCHENA



**SPENCER CHANDRA
HERBERT**
VANCOUVER-WEST END



MARK OLSEN
VERNON-MONASHEE



CAROLE JAMES
VICTORIA-BEACON HILL



ROB FLEMING
VICTORIA-SWAN LAKE



TERRY PLATT
WEST VANCOUVER
CAPILANO



ANA SANTOS
WEST VANCOUVER
SEA TO SKY



CAROLE GORDON
WESTSIDE-KELOWNA



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